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Showers

by

Joanne Ryals

Home Economics Freshman

APRIL showers bring May flowers! If you think the word showers is just a word the weatherman uses, you've forgotten this is the season for brides.

Showers are usually given by those chosen as bridal attendants, the bride's best friends, neighbors, social group friends or by fellow employees. Questions put to the bride or family will help determine the types of showers which can be given.

One thing to remember, whether invitations are formal or informal, they will carry this information—time, place, type of shower and a request for R.S.V.P. But, when a shower or party is for the family and intimate friends, the invitations may be oral and then telephone calls are permissible.

Don't try to mix groups just to have a large crowd at a shower. Invite people who are congenial and who have something in common. A better time is had by everyone if they all know each other beforehand.

Globe trotters shower

Plan a pleasant evening with Jane's best girl friends at a Globe Trotters Shower.

Jane is marrying a serviceman. They can plan no permanent home, but she wants to be with him these last months he is in the States. The hostesses, three of her closest friends, wish to provide a treasure shower for her. A medium sized strong chest is their gift and guests are invited to bring gifts which will help to make a home away from home.

Articles which a bride can use to make bare rooms pleasanter now and use later in a permanent home as reminders of first hours of happiness are the best. Suggested are a toaster, pair of silver candlesticks, singing teakettle, cloisonne vase, waffle iron, lace table cover, embroidered tea towels, two place settings of gay pottery, or perhaps an electric clock or iron. Choose, preferably, unbreakable articles to brighten the present and be treasured for the future.

Favors for a shower of this type might be miniature suitcases or maybe nut cups with travel stickers on them.

The office shower invitations read, "Linen Shower."



Beautiful crystal makes a precious group gift to be given at a shower. "Roselyn Etched" pattern by Cambridge, pictured, is an exquisite gift

How we love all the name implies—billowy sheets which can be white or colored, pillow cases, tablecloths, card table covers, chair back sets, place mats, doilies and all types of towels from finger tip or lipstick tinies to the all-enveloping beach towels. At a linen shower, linen substitutes are also acceptable. Keep in mind articles which will reduce laundry. In some families, it is a tradition for grandma to make her granddaughter's trousseau of table linens and tea service doilies, so one must be very careful that she doesn't select an article that might not match "pine-apple crocheted linens."

Neighborhood parties

Neighborhood parties are fun too. All of the folks who knew the bride when she was a child can be included.

"We are inviting the neighbors
To share in an evening of fun.
To bring a recipe, a card and a dollar
Is what we're asking each one."

Cards and dollars are collected as guests arrive. Each guest is asked to write a suggestion on the back of her recipe that will help the bride plan a menu using it. The recipes are read and collected to be placed in a file which the hostess provides. Older guests telling of their first cooking experiences will add to the fun. The bride is presented with a box in which elastic has been stitched to provide slots for the dollar bills which have been rolled tightly and placed therein. The money is given with the suggestion it be used for china or silver as needed.

One social group planned a Nautical Navigator's

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Bobby Rogers

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Ames

Showers—

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trip on the Turbulent Sea of Matrimony. Twenty guests were invited to take the course, bringing gifts for use with water.

A long list of gifts arrived for the kitchen, including tea towels, draining rack and a singing teakettle. Articles galore for the bathroom were among the water gifts too; shower curtains, bath mats, wash cloths and hand and bath towels. Vases, water glass sets, coasters, iced tea spoons and glass jackets are other articles which might have been included.

You can let your imagination be your guide in deciding on the favors and decorations for this shower. Small boats, anchors, lifesavers or anything to do with water will add to the gayness of the party.

Personal showers

Brides attendants love to plan personal showers for the bride. Gifts may be hose, cosmetics, cologne, perfume, hankies, scarves, jewelry and slippers in all the many styles from petticoats to evening slippers. Lounging wear and numerous other intimate items are always

Large and small items arrive with guests at the bathroom shower. Colors to match walls, tiles or porcelain predominate. A ringing alarm clock designates the location of the packages and the bride finds the gifts are scales, matching stool and bath mats, shower curtains, non-skid mats for the tub, soap dishes, towel racks, bath brushes, a medicine cabinet and a clothes hamper. Bath oils, bubble bath and soap of various perfumes could be included.



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